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DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF CHIROCEPHALUS.

BY JOHN A. RYDER.

The genus *Chirocephalus* does not seem to have been noticed up to the present time in North America; I therefore take much pleasure in announcing the discovery of a hitherto undescribed species of the genus in the vicinity of Woodbury, New Jersey, where it was found in abundance in the ditches by Mr. W. P. Seal, a resident of the place, and an indefatigable collector of the minute life of his neighborhood.

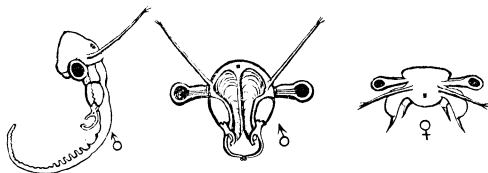
The genus, as characterized by Dr. Wm. Baird,¹ has been found in Switzerland, France, England, Russia, and Siberia. The species *C. lacunæ*, most nearly like the one I am about to describe, is figured and described by Guérin in his *Iconog. Regne Animale*, as being found at Fontainebleau, France. The differences between our species and Guérin's are, however, sufficiently striking and constant to characterize a well-marked specific type, and I accordingly propose the following specific characterization of the American form.

***Chirocephalus holmanii*, nov. sp.**

Char. specif.—Claspers moderately robust; second joint forked, longest branch longer than first joint, and curved inwards, its tip crossing that of its fellow of the opposite side when in repose; shorter branch less curved, slightly swollen, and rough on the inner surface of its tip, about half as long as the longer branch. Two long fleshy proboscis-like prehensile organs arise from the bases of the claspers and are coiled up between the latter; muscular fibres pass throughout their length; near their origin and for the first third they are expanded inferiorly into a thin margin with about seven papilliform processes; they then gradually contract, becoming cylindrical at their second third, where about seven well-marked digitiform processes are found, the longest of which are about as long as twice the diameter of the proboscis at this point; the remaining third gradually contracts, and is thickly studded with half rings of small papillæ which seem to mark

¹ Monograph of the Family Branchipodidæ, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., 2d ser., vol. xiv., 1854, p. 216-229.

indistinctly the segments of the organ. Total length of the proboscis, when extended, about three times that of the claspers. Total length 12-14 mm. Habitat, Woodbury, New Jersey.



Head of male with proboscis-like organs uncoiled, from the side. Same, viewed from before, with proboscis-like organs coiled up and retracted between the claspers. Head of female from above.

I name the above species in honor of Mr. D. S. Holman, Actuary of the Franklin Institute, in recognition of the services he has rendered in devising methods for studying living objects, both large and small, under the microscope, and to whom I am also indebted for the specimens from which the above description has been taken.

The detection of a member of the genus in this country is very interesting, but less so than the detection of *Pauropus huxleyi* Lubbock, in the vicinity of Philadelphia, without any difference, as far as Mr. Lubbock's excellent plates of English specimens would enable one to judge, that would make it even a variety, although removed by more than 3000 miles of ocean from its congeners. It has been suggested, however, that, inasmuch as Philadelphia is an old English settlement, *Pauropus* may have been introduced, but in the case of *Chirocephalus* such an explanation is less open to acceptance.